Electrification of villages

†2743. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 986 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13 July, 2009 and state:

(a) the number of villages supplied with power by the State Governments out of 62,520 villages electrified upto 30 June. 2009;

(b) the number of villages to be electrified in the first phase of Eleventh Plan; and

(c) the number of remaining villages left for electrification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), electrification works in 62,520 un/de-electrified villages comprising 58,745 villages of X Plan and 3,775 villages of XI Plan have been completed as on 30.06.2009 by the State Power Utilities and Central Public Sector Undertakings. Out of 62,520 villages, 44,273 villages have been energized as on 30.06.2009. Power supply to the villages is under domain of State Governments.

(b) 1,18,499 un/de-electrified villages comprising 68,763 villages of X Plan and 49,736 villages of XI Plan have been covered in the sanctioned projects under RGGVY.

(c) As on 30.11.2009, electrification in 67,080 un/de-electrified villages comprising of 60,499 villages of X Plan and 6,581 villages of XI Plan have been completed. Remaining 51,419 villages comprising of 8,264 villages of X Plan and 43,155 villages of XI Plan are left for electrification.

Dishonoring of contract with NTPC by RIL

2744. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL's) dishonoring of the contract with NTPC has caused a loss of around Rs.30.000 crores to NTPC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the actual loss incurred by NTPC till date as a result thereof; and

(d) the manner in which Government proposes to recover the losses from RIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) The tariff of NTPC projects is determined by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). As per the Regulation for fixing the Tariff under the Electricity Act 2003, there is no loss to NTPC on account of fuel cost as the fuel cost is a pass-through to beneficiaries. However, to protect the long term interests of its customers NTPC always strives to source fuel at the most competitive price.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

NTPC, with this objective of getting gas at the most competitive price, went for International Competitive Bidding (ICB) for sourcing of gas for its expansion projects at Kawas (1300 MW) and Gandhar (1300 MW) and placed Letter of Intent (LOI) on RIL, evaluated to be the lowest Techno-Commercially acceptable bidder, for supply of gas at US $ 2.34 / Million Metric British Thermal Unit (MMBTU) for 17 years. Subsequently, RIL sought major changes in Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) in the form of Limitation of Liability and RIL did not sign GSPA. Therefore, NTPC filed a suit against M/s RIL in Bombay High Court on 20.12.2005 for specific performance of the contract. The matter is at present sub-judice. The expansion project is yet to come up.

The variable cost of power (at delivered price of gas of US $ 3.30 / MMBTU based on commodity price of US $ 2.34 / MMBTU) works out to be Rs.1.07/ kilo watt hour (Kwh). The variable cost of power (at delivered price of US$ 6.67/MMBTU considering price of gas as US $ 4.20/MMBTU (land fall price) as fixed by Govt. of India for KG D-6 gas) works out to be Rs.2.17/Kwh. The difference in variable cost of power works out to be Rs.1.10/kwh (Rs.2.17-Rs.l.07/kwh).

Conference of power ministers

2745. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has called on the States and UTs to expedite efforts to achieve goal of power for all;

(b) if so, the decisions taken during the conference of Ministers of Power and whether it has been decided to call such a meeting twice a year; and

(c) if so, what were the points discussed and to what extent measures have been taken to implement decisions taken at the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) A Conference of Power Ministers of States was held on 15th November, 2009 at New Delhi to discuss following issues:-

(i) Capacity Addition;

(ii) Open Access;

(iii) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana; and

(iv) Re-structured APDRP.

After detailed discussion, a Resolution was adopted at the end of the conference incorporating the steps to be taken to expedite progress in Capacity Addition and facilitate implementation of RGGVY, R-APDRP and Open Access.

Constitution of a media commission

†2746. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.